

April 1, 2016

Subject: April 1, 2016

From: "Councilmember Paul Koretz" <Paul.Koretz@lacity.org>

Date: 04/01/2016 08:09 PM

To: "Lisa Schechter" <lisa@mediadistrict.org>



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LA Animal Services is seeking your valuable input to help plan a future in which we can do even more for animals and people in the City of LA.

L.A. Animal Services is hosting fifteen strategic planning community meetings (one in each Council District) from March 2016 through May 2016. Community members do not have to be pet owners or animal lovers to attend a meeting. All community members are encouraged to come share their thoughts and ideas on

Thank you, Senator Barbara Boxer

Councilmember Koretz was honored to lead a City of Los Angeles salute to United States Senator Barbara Boxer, declaring March 23 to be "Barbara Boxer Day in the City of Los Angeles."

On that day, the Councilmember hosted Senator Boxer at a special City Council ceremony where they were joined by Mayor Eric Garcetti, City Attorney Mike Feuer and Controller Ron Galperin, other members of the City Council, as well as members of Senator Boxer's family and staff.

Senator Boxer has served in the United States Senate since January 1993, but will be retiring from Congress in January 2017, at the end of this, her fourth and final term in the Senate.

Councilmember Koretz said that "Senator Barbara Boxer has provided us with non-stop leadership, and she has done this with feisty courage and conviction, and tenacious grit and principled determination, but also with extraordinary grace, decency and wisdom."

Senator Boxer's accomplishments have included: as Chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee, she led efforts passing a bipartisan transportation bill to improve transportation while supporting nearly 3 million jobs nationwide, and spearheaded the effort in the Senate to extend the Highway Trust Fund, protecting 1 million transportation jobs. She secured passage of the Water Resources Development Act, authorizing \$1.3 billion for 54

how we can help save the lives of more animals and better serve and protect our neighborhoods.

All input gathered will be compiled to assist with the future priorities and goals of LA Animal Services. You can help make a difference in our City and for your City of L.A. Animal Services Department.

Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Encino Community Center
4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, CA 91316

Can't attend but still want to give input? [Complete a community survey today!](#)



Shopping within the City limits of Los Angeles not only supports local businesses, it also supports City services, its neighborhoods and the well-being of all Los Angeles residents. For every \$10 you spend on taxes - \$1 goes back to the General Fund! Whether shopping along Melrose or grabbing some food in Encino, every dollar we spend within the city is an investment to the future of Los Angeles. Details [HERE](#).



!WATCH is a community awareness program created to educate the public about behaviors and activities that may have a connection to terrorism. It is a partnership between your community and the Los Angeles Police Department. For more information, please click the logo above.

flood control, ecosystem restoration and navigation projects in California. A champion of quality public education, Senator Boxer wrote landmark legislation establishing the first-ever federal funding for afterschool programs -- her law now covers 1.6 million children. Senator Boxer has written laws designating more than 1 million acres of California wilderness. She wrote the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act, which President Obama signed into law in July 2012, reaffirming our country's special relationship with Israel and strengthening economic and security cooperation between the two nations. She worked to pass the Violence Against Women Act, and, as a leading defender of a woman's right to choose, helped lead the floor fight for passage of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, and wrote bipartisan legislation to accelerate America's contribution to combat global HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

As Councilmember Koretz noted, "Truly, Senator Boxer's magnificent achievements run the gamut across a vast spectrum of issues and concerns that matter to each of us, and to this city, state and nation."

Senator Boxer expressed her great thanks, made clear that she was very moved by the ceremony and the many nice things said, and then discussed key efforts directly related to the people and priorities of Los Angeles, while promising to stay unrelentingly involved in the issues of the day, even after she leaves the United States Senate.

Angelo View Drive

The Board of Building & Safety Commissioners will NOT be discussing or voting on the controversial proposed project for 10101 Angelo View Drive.

There had been much community criticism of the proposed project, including regarding its size, but the application for the project has now been withdrawn, and so the matter is no longer going to be before the Commission on Tuesday, April 5th.

The withdrawal of the application followed Councilmember Koretz announcing that he would not be supporting the project, but was instead urging the Building & Safety Commission to deny the pertinent haul route permits, and was furthermore requesting that the applicant withdraw his project as proposed. That withdrawal has now taken place. The Councilmember very much thanks the community, the pertinent city departments, and all involved for their input and

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Send us your news and events!

If you or your community group have any upcoming events that you would like to see featured in our next newsletter or on my website, please e-mail me at paul.koretz@lacity.org.

Please feel free to send this newsletter along to your friends and neighbors and tell them to visit the CD 5 website at <http://cd5.lacity.org> to sign up for this newsletter.

analysis.

So if you were among those intending to come to downtown L.A. on April 5th to speak out about the controversial proposed project for 10101 Angelo View Drive, you can now feel free to make other plans.

James Gregory Jackson



A \$50,000 reward by the City of Los Angeles has been authorized, at the behest of Councilmember Koretz and at the suggestion of the LAPD, to help find any party responsible for the murder, seven months ago, of James Gregory Jackson, a much-liked resident of Council District 5. Walking to the front of his apartment (located a block from Hamilton High School), he was approached by an unknown gunman, who immediately fired 4 gun shots at James, hitting him 2 times. James was transported Cedar Sinai Hospital, where he died the next day.

Lead Detective Fernando Rivas and his colleagues in the Homicide Section of LAPD's West Bureau Operations have worked tirelessly on this case, and are to be commended, as is the surrounding community which has stood in solidarity in their shocked sadness over what happened as well as their resolve in wanting the case to be closed. But not enough progress in the case has occurred, to date, which is why Councilmember Koretz introduced his reward motion, later to be publicized at a recent press conference across the street from the site of the homicide, where he was joined by Detective Rivas and other LAPD representatives as well as Mr. Jackson's family members and neighbors. Anyone with information concerning this crime should please contact West Bureau Homicide, Detective Rivas or Detective Ortiz, at (213)

382-9470.



Bill Rosendahl, Rest in Peace

Former Los Angeles 11th District City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl has passed away after a courageous struggle with cancer. His passion and compassion touched the lives of countless people, for he was a devoted activist who would never hesitate to get involved and speak up for a person, neighborhood or cause in need of some leadership or support.

Before he was elected to the City Council, he was a renowned host of a public affairs show which was treasured for the way in which he allowed all views to be represented and heard. A former U.S. Army vet, he was involved throughout his life in civil rights and human rights efforts and numerous other liberal, populist and community-friendly endeavors. He was a fiercely unapologetic but gentle ally and guardian for anyone he felt was in harm's way or that could use a helping hand.

In part because the 11th District that he represented encompasses many Westside communities adjacent to the 5th District, but also because of a long friendship and many shared beliefs, Rosendahl often worked closely with Councilmember Koretz. On any given day, they could be seen joining forces on such issues as stopping billboard blight, advocating for the environment, protecting residents living close to local airports, championing the rights and well-being of the LGBT community, calling for improved public transportation, and providing our public safety personnel with better equipment.

Current 11th District Councilmember Mike Bonin, who had been Bill Rosendahl's Chief of Staff before Rosendahl's illness kept him from continuing on the Council, has shared the following message, http://www.11thdistrict.com/remembering_bill, which also gives information about an upcoming Memorial Mass on April 5 and a Celebration of Life on April 16. Councilmember Koretz and his staff send heartfelt condolences to Bill's longtime partner, Hedi El-Kholti; brothers, Thomas and Steven; sisters, Mary and Helen, and sister-in-law Sheila, and other beloved family members, as well as the extraordinary number of friends and fans that Bill, a happy warrior if ever there was one, accumulated along the way.

Bill Rosendahl giving fresh eggs from his backyard to actress Linda Blair.

Bill Rosendahl with former Councilmember Bernard Parks.

Nickie Miner!

Every year in City Hall, on one day a year, fifteen women who have made an amazing difference for our city are honored in a unique ceremony. Each of the 15 council offices picks one woman apiece to be saluted that year as a "Pioneer Woman."

This year's CD 5 Pioneer Woman, Nickie Miner, is a tremendous community leader, civic activist and long time volunteer. She is devoted to the preservation of open space, enhancing the quality of life in Los Angeles neighborhoods, advocating for wildlife, supporting police and fire, and creating relationships between community and Government. Nickie has been an absolutely invaluable liaison between the community and Los Angeles City Hall for over thirty years.

Born in Chicago, she came here at the age of five, and the very first night here, experienced a Los Angeles earthquake. Rather than be afraid of our city, she was entranced by its magic, including its natural beauty, wildlife and open spaces, which she experienced in long hikes with her father.

A UCLA graduate, she soon was teaching school, while being very community involved with PTA, the Girl Scouts, and as an LAPD booster. She also worked as a Probation Councilor at an LA County Juvenile Hall facility, helping teenage delinquent girls with serious mental and emotional problems.

Nickie raised her family in Benedict Canyon, and has made it her life's work to maintain the natural environment of the Canyon and protect wildlife and nature from extinction. Her volunteer work with the Benedict Canyon Association and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy began decades ago. Nickie founded the Land Use Committee of the BCA, and constantly seeks justice for the landscape of her beloved City.

A recent five term BCA president, Nickie was also long term editor of its widely respected newsletter. She has often galvanized the community, including recently to save 100 year old canopy trees. As current Vice President and long-time Planning and Land Use Committee member of the Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, and as a representative to the Hillside Federation, she has been instrumental in hillside and open space preservation issues in diverse neighborhoods from Laurel Canyon to the 405 Freeway, helping lead the charge to prevent mansionization, preserve neighborhood character, save open space, and regulate party houses and sober living establishments so that they comply with local ordinances.

Along with others in the BCA, Nickie worked in conjunction with the 5th Council District office and the Planning Department to establish the Hillside Ordinance, Baseline Mansionization Ordinance and Retaining Wall Ordinance, and are currently partnering to establish a much needed Ridgeline Ordinance to protect the natural treasure of Los Angeles for all to enjoy in perpetuity.

Nickie somehow finds time to serve as representative from Benedict Canyon on the West LA Police Department Community Advisory Board (C-PAB), and tirelessly attends meetings in West Los Angeles dealing with crime and traffic.

Throughout the City of Los Angeles, there are numerous projects that have been quietly shaped, influenced and preserved due to Nickie Miner's incredible efforts and ultimate success. She serves with a sense of humor and always focuses on the larger picture: a vision of the great City of Los Angeles, and both her now grown son and daughter followed

her path to community service in their respective neighborhoods. Despite surviving two bouts with cancer, Ms. Miner's work has never stopped. Her perseverance, courage, tenacity and persistence has been instrumental in her endeavors. She is truly a Pioneer Woman of Los Angeles.

Westwood Blvd. Great Streets- sidewalk renovation

As part of Mayor Eric Garcetti's "Great Streets" program, funding was received that allowed for several blocks of sidewalks to be completely redone on Westwood Blvd. This exciting effort was successfully achieved through the partnering of the Mayor's office, the 5th Council District office, and the Westwood Village Business Improvement District. Councilmember Koretz and his staff send a special "thank you" to the Bureau of Street Services and its crew for their amazing work.

Legislative update

The City Council has recently taken action on two important sidewalk-related issues:

SIDEWALK REPAIR POLICY: Last fall the City settled the "Willits" lawsuit and committed some \$1.4 billion over 30 years to address long-festering sidewalk repair issues throughout Los Angeles. The case focused on making sure that City sidewalks are Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant. On Tuesday, March 29, a Sidewalk Repair Policy was adopted to create a framework for undertaking the work necessary to implement the Willits settlement.

Many issues remain outstanding, including how to administer paying for the work, how best to prioritize the work, dealing with how street tree roots play into the situation, and what kind of pavement surfaces to use. Of special interest to the public is the fact that more than \$6 million was set aside over the next three years to allow the City to better respond to complaints about the condition of sidewalks in specific locations.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS OF THE HOMELESS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY: On Wednesday, March 30, the Council gave preliminary approval to amending how the City will handle people's personal belongings on public sidewalks and

in other public locations. The City's past (and current) practices, which have involved confiscating the belongings and sometimes citing their owner, attracted litigation and ran afoul of constitutionality issues in court, and the City Council, City Attorney and Bureau of Sanitation have been working on a compromise amendment since the summer of 2015.

The action for the first time makes it legal for street persons to have a certain volume of belongings with them as long as they cooperate with efforts to keep the sidewalks passable and conform with other requirements regarding what they can have with them. The action also links enforcement to the City's anticipated creation of a network of storage facilities all over Los Angeles so the homeless have an alternative to trying to keep everything they own with them at all times.

EXTRAORDINARY WATER ABUSE MOTION: Several months ago, the [Center for Investigative Reporting](#) listed the top 10 known residential water customers in California. Councilmember Koretz, who, as a member of the City Council's Energy & Environment Committee and as one of the Mayor's appointees to the Metropolitan Water Board for two years, has spent countless hours working to address this new low-water future, was horrified to find that five of the top water users in California actually live in his very own Council District 5. Four of the top five live in Bel Air and one lives in Westwood. The single biggest water user in the state, a Bel-Air resident, used about 1 million gallons of water per month (enough for 90 average households). Councilmember Koretz introduced [a motion](#) calling on the LA Department of Water & Power to find immediate ways to address and stop the water abuse, including "severe financial penalties."

As quoted in the [related LA Times story](#), Councilmember Koretz decided to take "responsibility for the extravagant and embarrassing use of water in my district. It's a slippery slope to move toward a time where water is only for those who can most afford it.

"I don't care what else you do in these mansions, but when hard-working Angelenos from all walks of life are ripping out their lawns, putting buckets in their showers with them in order to water their plants and flushing their toilets only once a day, it's not only unfair, it's ridiculous."

Now, only a few months later, Councilmember Koretz is extremely pleased. Thanks to the combined efforts of the CD5 staff working with the DWP water system staff, the excessive water abuse is way down. Many of the water

abusers were simply unaware of the amount of water they were using and have stepped up their efforts to curtail their use. For those who haven't cut their use, DWP will soon be coming out with their new regulations.

Celebrating the Fairfax Business Association on 20 years of service to the community!

The Fairfax Business Association has been an advocate for Fairfax Avenue for two decades and continues to push for marketing and promotions, and other enhancements on the street. Councilmember Koretz recently visited the street to speak with the board of the association to discuss the past concerns, current issues, and the future. Their Board President and owner of Canters Deli, Jacqueline Canter, and board member Ruth Williams, (pictured here) have been involved in this work since they began as an organization. One of their first projects happened almost 20 years ago when they obtained grant funding to build a median just south of Melrose Avenue with trees and flowers. It remains beautiful to this day and the Fairfax Business Association maintains it. In the past couple years, Councilmember Koretz and his staff have worked with the association to address many concerns of the businesses including: trimming city trees in 2015; recently installing eight brand new city-serviced trash cans; newly restriped crosswalks at many of the key intersections in the new, more visible, continental crosswalk style; and soon, replacing all of the distinctive glass globes which cover the street lights (many are broken and/or missing). With this iconic street being such an important part of the community and the city, it is very important to support efforts that keep it safe and clean. Go Fairfax!

Pictured above: Alex Canter, Councilmember Koretz, Jacqueline Canter, Ruth Williams

Firefighters to the rescue!

On March 23, the great effectiveness and heroism of the LAFD served the 5th District well yet again. A structure fire on the 3200 block of Overland, in the community of Palms, was vanquished by firefighters in a little more than an hour, after the fire was first confined to portions of the structures 6th and 7th floors. No injuries were suffered. The Council Office and community join in thanking and applauding the Los Angeles Fire Department.



Westside Village Homeowners Association

Councilmember Koretz and his staff frequently attend and participate in meetings of neighborhood groups and community organizations. It's a great way of sharing information, hearing concerns and recognizing the many people who give so much time and energy in order to help their community.

For example, Councilmember Paul Koretz and some of his staff recently attended the Westside Village Homeowners Association. He announced the opening of the Expo Phase 2 light rail line, discussed how the city is addressing homelessness, and addressed the need to create meaningful regulations governing short-term rentals throughout Los Angeles. Prior to giving his speech, the Councilmember presented certificates of commendation to Valerie Fontaine, Westside Village HOA Boardmember and Team Leader of LA CERT (Community Emergency Response Team); Guita Farin and David Graue, collaborators of the Westside Village Neighborhood Watch; and Richard Saltsman, former Westside Village HOA Board President. Councilmember Koretz also

recognized Senior Lead Officer Juan Ceja from the Los Angeles Police Departments Pacific Division for his hard work and tireless efforts to bring stability in Palms and Mar Vista.

NoRooz 2016

The Persian community celebrated the Persian New Year – NoRooz – with great style, on Westwood Blvd., which happens to be where the very first Persian-owned business was opened in Los Angeles. Six thousand people were on hand for the annual festivities, and they enjoyed the music, food and speeches. Thank you to the many organizers, including Alex Helmi, Bijan Khalili, and Pouria Abbassi: So many community leaders, groups and volunteers help make this possible. Aideh shomah moborak -- Happy New Year!

Napa Valley Grille Grand Re-Opening

Napa Valley Grille is one of the many prime attractions in Westwood Village, and is known for its fine, delicious, gourmet food. The restaurant had been open for 15 years before undergoing a temporary closure for approximately 3 ½ months to allow for remodeling, with some wonderful renovation involved. Councilmember Koretz was delighted to join in the recent grand reopening and ribbon-cutting.

Century City -- state of the city

Councilmember Koretz, Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Controller Ron Galperin were invited to speak at the Century City Chamber of Commerce's State of the City event. They discussed city efforts aimed at protecting and improving the quality of life for all Angelenos, and highlighted how those efforts relate to Century City. Councilmember Koretz focused significantly on the Purple Line extension coming to Century City and how the Expo line will benefit the many people who work and live in the central business district.

As part of the event, Executive Director and CEO of the Century City Chamber Susan Bursk organized a dynamic panel regarding projects in Century City at various stages of development. Councilmember Koretz applauds Bursk and the Chamber for the panels, seminars, networking events and panels which have raised awareness and contributed to the many improvements and success stories in Century City.

Councilmember Koretz presenting certificate to CEO of the Century City Chamber, Susan Bursk.

Congrats, Encino Chamber of Commerce!

Last month, a special anniversary was celebrated by the Encino Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Koretz was among those on hand for the festivities (other elected officials presented including Assemblymember Matt Dababneh, and Sheriff Jim McDonnell). Councilmember Koretz praised and thanked the Chamber and its membership for providing ongoing, superlative leadership and community involvement helping local business and all resident. The event was wonderful and made for a truly fitting recognition of one of our city's greatest community organizations. Happy 80th anniversary!

Mediation Awareness

When March is turning into April is also when Mediation Awareness Week takes place in the City of L.A.

There is a significant need to promote mediation as a valuable option for people suffering conflict in their personal, community or business lives. The City Attorney's Office is among those that can help with dispute resolution/mediation services, which is why Councilmember Koretz was joined by City Attorney Mike Feuer in kicking off Mediation Awareness Week. Also present was the week's chair, Daniel Ben-Zvi, and numerous legal luminaries.

The resolution of disputes can be unnecessarily costly, time consuming and complex when achieved through court proceedings. Mediation is a means for resolving conflicts amicably, thereby improving relations among people and within neighborhoods and families and between consumers and businesses while relieving them of the burden of litigation. Through mediation, parties in dispute often agree on a resolution, under the guidance of a skilled mediator, thereby avoiding the need to seek a decision from a judge, jury or arbitrator. The City of Los Angeles now has a substantial number of professionally trained mediators providing dispute resolution services to those in need of such services.

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This message was sent to lisa@mediadistrict.org by:

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